

# **INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE COMMISSION**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

5<sup>th</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2007 – 3:00 P.M.

The International Bridge Commission met at the above place and date.

**Item 1:** Chair Tanny Berg called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m. Those present were:

**Tanny Berg, Chair** – D-1 (Rep. Ann Morgan Lilly)

**Daniel Barnes**, D-4 (Rep. Melina Castro)

**Mike Breitingner**, D-7 (Rep. Steve Ortega)

**Mike Dipp, Vice-Chair** – (Mayor John Cook)

**Analisa Cordova**, D-2 (Rep. Susie Byrd)

**Blanca Dominguez**, D-6 (Rep. Eddie Holguin, Jr.)

### **ABSENT**

**Victor M. Aguirre**, D-5 (Rep. Rachel Quintana)

**Gerardo Camacho**, D-3 (Rep. J. Alexandro Lozano)

**Saul Frank**, D-8 (Rep. Beto O'Rourke)

### **OTHERS PRESENT**

Daryl W. Cole, Street Department Director

Ray Mendoza, Street Department - Bridges & Meters Division

Richard Bristol – Street Department

Josette Flores, Assistant City Attorney

Jorge Castillo, Economic Development

Mauro Peña, United Independent Cab Company

Juan M. Ulloa, United Independent Cab Company

Don Michie – Guest Speaker

**Item 2:** Motion made by Mr. Dipp, seconded by Ms. Dominguez and carried to approve the Minutes to the last meeting on Tuesday, August 21, 2007.

**AYES:** Mr. Berg, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Breitingner, Mr. Dipp, Ms. Cordova, Ms Dominguez.

**NAYS:** None

**NOT PRESENT FOR THE VOTE:** Mr. Aguirre, Mr. Camacho, Mr. Frank.

### **Item 3: Discussion and Action on Presentation of Bridge Management Report.**

Mr. Mendoza reported that the canopy on Oregon Street is complete. He also reported that there will be a detour coordinated by GSA due to construction southbound on El Paso Street, and should last about three weeks.

Chair Berg asked that we invite Sun Metro to our next meeting to discuss the bus route.

Mr. Cole asked that we invite Ted Marquez, Assistant City Engineer for Traffic, to our next meeting.

#### **Item 4. Discussion on Taxi Stand Proposal for Bridge of the Americas.**

A report was given by Mr. Mauro Peña, Owner/Manager of United Independent Cab Company, on a proposal for a taxi stand for the Bridge of the Americas. Chair Berg offered the Commission's support through a resolution by them and approved by this Commission, in asking City Council to support the resolution. The Commission does not have any authority to create a taxi stand. He recommended they go through GSA, or to speak to our state representatives, congressman, or state senator.

#### **Item 5. Discussion on the GSA Head House Project at the Paso Del Norte Bridge.**

Mr. Cole handed out two articles taken from El Paso Times concerning bridge lines, and gave a report on the PDN Project. Chair Berg requested a timeline schedule on the project, and is again asking that we get a set of plans from GSA. Mr. Cole stated that he has made a formal request for the plans.

#### **Item 6. Discussion on Southern Border Bridge Tolls**

Mr. Don Michie, professor at the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP), presented a discussion on Southern Border Bridge Tolls.

Chair Berg asked that we bring the issue on bridge tolls as an action item next month to support this information jointly from the Commission on Border Relations and the International Bridge Commission for consideration by City Council. And that we jointly provide council members a dossier about bridge tolls and the informational document provided by Mr. Michie.

Mr. Breitingner asked that we add to Chair Berg's recommendation to include the official position from the City of El Paso in regard to the current conditions at the bridges, and the official position of this administration so that we can couple with that and try to power our resources.

#### **Item 7. Discussion on Regional Transportation Initiatives**

Chair Berg stated that there are issues being proposed at the RMA about a new bridge in the general area of Yarbrough.

Chair Berg asked that the Commissioners contact their representatives and ask them to attend the next Commission meeting.

#### **Item 8. There were no open comments.**

**Item 9.** Motion by Mr. Breitingner, seconded by Mr. Barnes and carried to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Approved as to form:

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Department Head / Board Secretary